

The Seven Churches of Revelation

1. ***Ephesus***: *The church of the first century* was generally praiseworthy but it had already left its first love.
2. ***Smyrna***: From the *first to the fourth century*, the church suffered persecution under the Roman emperors.
3. ***Pergamos***: *During the fourth and fifth centuries*, Christianity was recognized as an official religion through Constantine's patronage.
4. ***Thyatira***: From the *sixth to the fifteenth century*, the Roman Catholic Church largely held sway in Western Christendom until rocked by the Reformation. In the East, the Orthodox Church ruled.
5. ***Sardis***: The *sixteenth and seventeenth centuries were the Post-Reformation period*. The light of the Reformation soon became dim.
6. ***Philadelphia***: During the *eighteenth, nineteenth, and part of the twentieth centuries*, there were mighty revivals and great missionary movements.
7. ***Laodicea***: *The church of the last days* is pictured as lukewarm and apostate: rogue; defection; renouncing the truth.